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PEOPLE'S DAILY: WORLD ADVANCES DESPITE SUPERPOWERS' CONTENTION

Peking NCNA in English 2046 GMT 31 Dec 73 B

[Text] Peking, December 31, 1973 (HSINHUA)--The PEOPLE'S DAILY today carries a signed article entitled "The World Advances Amidst Great Disorder." Excerpts from the article follow:

1973, the outgoing year, is marked by great disorder and an excellent situation throughout the world. The people have made gigantic strides in the course of their struggle, and the features of the world have undergone changes amidst this disorder, which is a manifestation of the further sharpening of the basic contradictions in the world. Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution--this has been the main trend amidst the disorder. The world situation as a whole may be aptly depicted with a Chinese saying: "The wind sweeping through the tower heralds a rising storm in the mountains," and that wind is becoming increasingly severe now.

The international situation in the past year shows that great disorder is a good thing for the people of all countries; it has thrown imperialism, modern revisionism and all reaction into confusion, and educated and tempered the people and further awakened them.

The people of all countries have seen ever more clearly that they should be daring in struggle if they want independence, liberation and revolution, and that although their road of struggle is tortuous victory will be theirs so long as they persevere in the struggle. Numerous facts prove that it is not imperialism and reaction, but the people of all countries who dare to struggle that are really powerful. The oppressed nations and people are more firmly convinced than ever that they should oppose armed counter-revolution with armed revolution.

The struggle of the Third World countries against the power politics and hegemonism of the two superpowers has been conspicuously strengthened in the past year. The people of the Third World have seen more and more clearly that aggression and expansion by the two superpowers are the main source of threat to their independence and sovereignty. Both the contention between the hegemonic U.S. and USSR and their collusion with each other are detrimental to the interests of the small and medium-sized countries and are therefore inevitably opposed by various countries. More and more people in the Third World have come to see through the true colors of Soviet revisionist social-imperialism. State leaders and public opinion in some countries have pointed out that the Soviet revisionists "are no different from the tsars" and that they have all along carried out imperialist policies.

The Third World countries and people have continuously strengthened their unity in the course of struggle. Leaders of 41 African countries solemnly declared in Addis Ababa last May that they are determined to strengthen solidarity and support each other in the fight against common enemies. In Algiers early last September, more than 70 nonaligned countries vehemently denounced in one voice imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, Zionism, racism and hegemonism. During the anti-aggression struggle waged by the Egyptian, Syrian and Palestinian people recently, Arab countries took concerted action of solidarity and nearly 20 African countries severed diplomatic relations with Israel in token of support for the Arab people who were fighting heroically.

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The Third World countries are closely united by common interests. They have established regional and specialized organizations for the purpose of enhancing cooperation and they have taken joint actions to safeguard their state sovereignty and national interests. They have gained one success after another in these fields. Facts show that it is not the Third World which fears the superpowers; on the contrary, it is the superpowers which fear the Third World.

The international situation in the past year is characterized notably by the further awakening and growing in strength of the Third World and its increasingly important role in international affairs. The Third World has demonstrated a mighty force as never before, and its voice can no longer be ignored. Major international issues can hardly find solution without the participation and approval of the Third World, and it is increasingly difficult for the two superpowers to monopolize the United Nations Organization.

The past year is replete with the rivalry for hegemony between the two superpowers. Strategically, Europe has always been the key point of this contention. The tension and turmoils in the Middle East, the conflicts in the South Asian subcontinent, the turbulence in the Persian Gulf and the storms over the Mediterranean Sea and the Indian Ocean have all been the manifestation or result of the fierce contention between the two superpowers, the USSR and U.S.A., whose global contention for hegemony is the root cause of world intranquillity.

As Lenin pointed out, "An essential feature of imperialism is the rivalry between several great powers in the striving for hegemony and their effort to weaken the adversary and undermine his hegemony." In the past year, overt and covert struggles between the Soviet Union and the United States have developed all over the world and they involved various domains. Their fields of contention vary from conference table to market and battlefield, from land to sea and outer space. In this all-round strife for hegemony, Soviet revisionist social-imperialism shows a greater momentum and extended its reach farther and wider than the U.S. Making a feint to the east while attacking in the west, it concentrates the greatest attention on Europe. While increasing its troops incessantly to step up its threat to West Europe, Soviet revisionism has been zealous in propagating "detente" in an attempt to lull the vigilance of the West European countries and elbow out the United States. It has also made reckless inroads in other parts of the world. In a word, it has committed penetration wherever there is a chance. In some countries or regions, it arrived at the heels of the United States; in some others, it took the United States' place as soon as the latter left; and in still some other areas which the United States had not been able to lay hands on, Soviet revisionist social-imperialism took the advantage to step in.

However, with a long front and inadequate strength, Soviet revisionism is beset with many difficulties though its ambitions are great enough. So it often pulls in its horns when there is a counterattack. Soviet revisionism, which intends to take the place of the other superpower in dominating the world, has tried its best to cover this up, denying that the two superpowers are locked in contention. More candid in this regard are some leading American politicians who have openly admitted that "the Soviet Union and the United States impinge on each other, as superpowers, in many parts of the world" and that they are "political and military competitors."

Ever fiercer rivalry between the two superpowers--this cannot be altered by anybody. To scramble for spheres of influence, collusion between the two hegemonic powers can only be temporary and relative and serves only the purpose of intensified contention while their rivalry is long and absolute.

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The two superpowers are beset with difficulties and ridden with latent crises at home and abroad. As the verse goes, "Flowers fall off, do what one may." They are in a sorry plight indeed.

U.S. imperialism is finding the going tougher and tougher from year to year. It has been unable to surmount difficulties at home, and all its endeavors abroad have failed to turn the tide which shows all the characteristics of a decline. It has been compelled to withdraw its forces from South Vietnam but continues to carry the two heavy burdens--the Nguyen Van Thieu clique and the Lon Nol clique--on its back. It has designated this year as a "Year of Europe" and put forth a "New Atlantic Charter," only to admit disappointedly that these plans are not getting on smoothly. Moreover, its support to Israel's military adventure has run up against the opposition of many countries.

Soviet revisionism is in a worse plight. Its economic situation this year is not much better than before. The backwardness of its agriculture still persists. Many industrial projects have been left unfulfilled, and this has led to curtailed production plans for 1974. Its huge trade deficit has forced the selling of its gold reserve to make up for the loss. Although the Soviet revisionist ruling clique has resorted to all kinds of high-handed policies in dealing with the workers, peasants, intellectuals and minority people who have shown strong resentment, and even moved out troops to suppress the rebellious masses, resistance on the part of the Soviet people is unabated.

The more vigorously Soviet revisionist social-imperialism engages itself in expansion, the harder it finds the going. To cope with the difficulty, chieftains of Soviet revisionism, who style their country a "developed socialist country," have been running hither and thither in the outgoing year begging for loans from western countries. They are satirically described in the Western press as "dollar diplomat" and "economic mendicant dressed up as a military giant." Soviet revisionism has reached out everywhere, and everywhere it has run into snags. It has taken pains to work for the success of the "European security conference" in order to penetrate into Western Europe, but the conference has failed to achieve any substantial result. The French representative mocked at the conference by calling it "a dialogue of the deaf." Soviet revisionism has played many cards at meetings on force reduction in Central Europe in an attempt to beat its opponents, but it has gained no advantage from this except that it has put other countries on alert. Its effort to disintegrate Western Europe has the net result of strengthening the trend toward union among the West European countries. It has energetically peddled the so-called "collective security system in Asia," but received only cold response from other countries. It has attempted to compel Japan to give up her sovereignty over the four northern islands, but both the ruling and opposition parties in Japan firmly refuse to give in. Its accelerated transport of manpower to Israel has aroused growing indignation among the Arab countries. Soviet revisionism further showed up its ugly features in the recent Middle East war by betraying the interests of the Arab and Palestinian people and contending for spheres of influence with the other superpower. This also revealed fully its nature of being ferocious in appearance but weak inwardly. A Latin American paper wrote: If the image of Washington is now well known to all, "then it is the Soviet Union that is even more discredited in the world."

The world is entering 1974. "In man's world seas change into mulberry fields." In the coming year the world will certainly continue to undergo great turbulence, great division and great realignment. It will still be in great disorder and not in peace. Amidst this turbulence will be a growing trend in revolution.

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We can foretell with full confidence that the people of the world will in the course of struggle further temper themselves, raise their political consciousness, strengthen their forces and propel the wheels of history to roll onwards.

PEKING STEEL WORKER SENDS NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS TO SOVIET PEOPLE

Peking in Russian to the USSR 1800 GMT 31 Dec 73 B

[New Year's greetings to the Soviet people from (Pai Shu-mao), veteran steelworker of the Peking steel mill--recorded in Chinese fading into Russian translation]

[Excerpts] On the eve of the new year, allow me, on behalf of the entire collective of the Peking steel mill, to express warm holiday greetings to the working class and all people of the Soviet Union.

I would like to dwell on the friendship of the Chinese and Soviet peoples. In August 1960 I visited the Soviet Union as a member of a Chinese workers tourist group. At that time, the Khrushchev clique, trampling upon the elementary norms of international relations, recalled in the period of 1 month all of the 1,390 Soviet specialists working in China, tore up 343 contracts and supplementary acts of these contracts, and cancelled 257 items of scientific and technical cooperation. All this caused enormous damage to the cause of our socialist construction.

Yet, we profoundly feel the great friendship of ordinary Soviet people for the Chinese people. We stayed at that time at the Peking Hotel in Moscow. The service staff of the hotel and drivers were very warm in their relations with us. On meeting, we would firmly shake hands and warmly greet each other. The cooks prepared tasty Chinese dishes especially for us. In Moscow we visited the Moscow automobile plant Imeni Likhachev where we were warmly welcomed by the workers and employees. They acquainted us with their production. Being a steelworker, I was particularly interested in the open hearth furnaces. At parting, the workers bid us a warm farewell. The warm, friendly feeling of the Soviet workers for the Chinese workers left a profound impression with us. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express a cordial greeting over the radio to the entire collective of the automobile plant Imeni Likhachev.

Presently, despite everything, the renegade Brezhnev clique has unfolded a rabid anti-Chinese campaign which has resulted in a considerable decrease in the number of contacts between the peoples of China and the Soviet Union. But the profound friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples is based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and will live forever in our hearts. It cannot be undermined, not by Brezhnev or any others of his ilk.

The anti-Chinese policy of the Brezhnev clique finds no support among the broad masses of Soviet people. On the contrary, this policy only more clearly exposes the Brezhnev clique's genuine feature as a traitor to Lenin. As the great leader of the Chinese people Chairman Mao Tsetung said: The Soviet Union is the first socialist state and the CPSU is the party established by Lenin. Despite the fact that the party and state leadership in the Soviet Union has been usurped by revisionists, I nonetheless suggest to my comrades that they firmly believe that the broad masses of people, and the broad masses of communists and cadres in the Soviet Union, are worthy people and want revolution and that the supremacy of the revisionists there will be shortlived.

In conclusion, I would once again like to warmly greet the Soviet people on the occasion of the new year. I wish you health and new successes in the struggle in the defense of Marxism-Leninism.